

## Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

RSR-01 /127 W

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R 230054 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6622

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 4552

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, MX

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEW ON US TRADE LEGISLATION

1. DURING CONVERSATION FRIDAY, FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA RAISED WITH ME QUESTION OF PENDING US TRADE LEGISLATION. HE SAID IT WAS PRIMARILY TO DISCUSS THIS SITUATION THAT HAD CAUSED HIM TO SUMMON AMBASSADOR OLLOQUI TO MEXICO. HE SAID THAT PRESENT LEGISLATION WOULD HARM ALL OF LATIN AMERICA. WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO MEXICO THE DAMAGE WOULD BE MAINLY TO THE BORDER INDUSTRIES PROGRAM BUT STRESSED ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE WOULD SUFFER EVEN THOUGH THE LEGISLATION, HE REALIZED WAS DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT JAPAN AND THE COMMON MARKET. HE STRESSED THAT US TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICAN WAS MINUTE COMPARED WITH JAPAN AND THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

2. RABASA SAID HE HOPED TO SEE THE SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON EARLY NEXT MONTH TO OUTLINE HIS VIEWS ON TRADE MATTERS AND PARTICULARLY THE POSSIBILITY OF DOING SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE FOR LATIN AMERICA. HE THOUGHT THIS LEGISLATION INSTEAD OF HURTING THIS HEMISPHERE SHOULD BE TURNED AROUND AND BECOME PROFITABLE FOR THESE COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THAT THE EEC AND ANY AFRICAN AND ASIAN COUNTRIES HAD PREFERENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THOUGHT THE US SHOULD ESTABLISH SOME SIMILAR SYSTEM IN THIS HEMISPHERE WHICH

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IS OUR NATURAL PARTNER. HE NOTED THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME THE NATIONS WHICH WERE AT A TRADING DISADVANTAGE BECAUSE OF PREFERENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS EXISTING ELSEWHERE WERE THE US AND LATIN AMERICAN AND THAT SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE TO REMEDY THIS SITUATION.

3. IN CLOSING RABASA SAID HE WOULD BE MOST HAPPY TO WELCOME AMBASSADOR EBERLE OR MALMGREN HERE FOR DISCUSSIONS TO THIS COMPLEX AND VITAL TOPIC.

4. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY WOULD ALSO WELCOME A VISIT BY ONE OF THESE MEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF TALKING WITH THE MEXICANS ON TRADE MATTERS.  
MCBRIDE

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980227  
**Subject:** FOREIGN MINISTER' S VIEW ON US TRADE LEGISLATION  
**TAGS:** BEXP, ETRD, MX  
**To:** ARA  
**SECSTATE WASHDC**  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005